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Majles Sessions

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CONTENTS

RESALAT Reports on Majles Sessions 1
8 May *[9 May]* 1
10 May *[11 May]* 5
11 May *[12 May]* 10
15 May *[16 May]* 14

RESALAT Reports on Majles Sessions

8 May

94LA0160A Tehran RESALAT in Persian 9 May 94 p 5

[Text] Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division. Yesterday the Majles met in open session chaired by Mr. 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri, and the deputies from the cities of Tarqobeh and Chenaran, Molayer, Mian-e Doab, Samirom, and Urmia gave speeches. Then the speaker of the Majles gave a speech in which he condemned the shameful signing of the Gaza-Jericho Treaty between the PLO and Israel and offered congratulations on the triumph of the blacks in South Africa. Then the Majles went into consultation, and we direct the attention of our esteemed readers to the detailed proceedings.

Ahmad Moradi, Deputy From Tarqobeh And Chenaran

The government organizations and the Economic Council raise the prices of goods and services at every opportunity on the pretext of economic adjustment.

The first preagenda speaker at yesterday's open Majles session was Moradi, deputy from Tarqobeh and Chenaran. He commemorated the martyrdom anniversary of Professor Motahari, Teacher Week, and Workers Day. He discussed the disgraceful performance of the United Nations and the international organizations with regard to the slaughter of the Muslim people of Gorazdeh by the bloodthirsty Serbs. He said: The world's oppressed and tormented nations must realize that the only road to liberation is the return to self and reliance on God and unity.

The speaker discussed the importance of the agricultural sector and the nation's steadfastness towards crises and economic and political embargoes. He said: Unfortunately certain decisions, one made this past year by the Economic Council to increase the prices of fertilizer and pesticides, have weakened this sector, and if it does not receive serious attention we will witness the loss of the efforts made by the Ministry of Agriculture and the national investment. We will even need to import wheat and major agricultural crops.

Moradi discussed the severe cold in the orchards in the province of Khorasan, and the serious damage to the agricultural crops. He said: The government must provide long-term credits for the current years and it must also insure the orchards in the years to come.

The deputy from Tarqobeh and Chenaran also discussed the one-sided and monopolistic performance of most sugar cube factories last year and this year. He said: This has not only irreparably damaged the nation's sugar cube industries, it has caused an unreasonable rise in the price of sugar cubes and sugar in the country and has hurt the general public. It is necessary that the government deal with this matter seriously.

The speaker discussed the one-sided and unjust way in which the sugar cube factories have dealt with farmers. Then he discussed the shortage of cash in the nation's factories. He said: Unfortunately the Ministry of Economic and Financial Affairs and the Central Bank have regularly obstructed exports and the import of raw materials, and the result has been factory closures, unemployment, reduced production, and, ultimately, it has unleashed inflation, which has caused emotional pain for the exalted leader and the oppressed nation.

Continuing, Moradi added: Controlling prices and preventing inflation is not something that can be solved with speeches, memos, and guidelines. Only production and sound competition can give the consumer the right to choose.

Continuing, he said: The government organizations and the Economic Council raise the prices of goods and services at every opportunity on the pretext of economic adjustment and helping the vulnerable classes, ignoring the fact that there has been no benefit to these people other than damage, harm, and inflation, even though there may be long-term benefits.

Continuing, he criticized some unnecessary classes in the universities. Elsewhere in his speech he thanked the president of the republic, the delegation sent and the office of the governor-general of Khorasan, who made efforts to solve the problems in his electoral district. He said: Unfortunately, although a year has gone by since the written order was issued by the Ministry of Petroleum to provide gas service to the district of Tarqobeh via Mashhad, nothing has yet been done.

The speaker thanked Engineer Gharazi, minister of post, for ordering that telephones be assigned to the public for installment payments in the municipality of Chenaran. In conclusion he issued memos concerning his electoral district.

'Abdollah Nowruzi, Deputy From Molayer

The next speaker was Nowruzi, deputy from Molayer. During his speech he discussed the issue of privatization. He said: If privatization is to take place, it must occur with Iranian thinking, with the nation's makeup and culture and in our various circumstances. It must not be something conceived at the College of Economic and Financial Affairs or by a council from the World Bank, some of whom are American.

He added: Unfortunately there is a foundation there called the Rockefeller and Ford Foundation giving special seminars on privatization, providing guidance and giving direction to our activities, yet we ourselves should be doing the privatization.

The speaker added: Their third seminar is to take place on the 20th and the 21st. Their leader is Mr. David Ellerman [as published], an American, and according to many of them, a CIA agent who is officially supported by it. They have utterly destroyed Egypt, Algeria, Tunisia, and El Salvador.

Continuing, the speaker said: Although some of what is in the Second Five-Year Plan is good, in some places it has impure strains, and if careful attention is not given to those, it will face great dangers.

In conclusion, the speaker discussed the fact that in the Plan and Budget Organization there is a group of valuable and perceptive experts. He said: There are also some who think in terms of sectors and sometimes in terms of their own positions and their home cities. This situation definitely exists in the management of the Ministry of Higher Education, the Ministry of Defense Affairs, the Administrative Affairs Organization and the Plan and Budget Organization, and we must design the Second Five-Year Plan based on the realities and needs of society.

Jalal Rasuli, Deputy From Mian-e Doab

The Economic Council must be controlled with understanding and expertise.

The next speaker was Rasuli, deputy from Mian-e Doab. During his speech he commemorated the memory of Martyr Motahari. He said: Unfortunately our Ministry of Education has weak management and this has meant that there is now a bipolar educational system in our society. Those who have more money and resources attend the nonprofit schools. Taking private classes, they enjoy more instruction, training, and education.

The deprived classes in society, however, have lower quality education and have been beset by dropouts.

He added: People are now even selling their carpets and refrigerators so they can pay the costs at the nonprofit schools and send their own to centers where they will receive good education and training.

He discussed the Majles project to control prices. He said: The Economic Council must be controlled with care, attention, understanding, and expertise so that the result will be limitations on services and also so that it will not cause long lines and a black market for goods marketed through government investments.

Continuing, Rasuli then cited the failure to invest in the conversion industries as a factor in the reduced capability of fruitful farms. He said: West Azarbaijan, especially my electoral precinct, has green pastures and potential resources for animal husbandry and agriculture, but due to the lack of conversion industries and the inability of the people to invest in these areas, it is faced with a serious problem. This is especially true in the area of beet growing, which could free the nation from the need to import beets. Unfortunately, however, a worn-out factory built in that area about 50 years ago is absolutely unable to answer the production needs of the people.

He added: The only crop in the area whose cultivation is mechanized is beets, but because the factory does not have the necessary equipment and capacity, they have problems marketing their crop. The people grow crops to meet the factory's capacity, but unfortunately the people's crops rot in their hands, while we import sugar from abroad.

He explained: The issue of privatization has meant that now the Plan and Budget Organization and the Central Bank have stopped this project to build beet factories in these areas. They emphasize that investment should be made by the private sector, although it is confirmed that in deprived areas such as Mian-e Doab the private sector does not have the ability to build factories.

Continuing, the speaker discussed the rising waters of Lake Urmia. He said: This has swallowed up thousands of hectares of land and not that much attention has been given to it.

It would be appropriate for the government to compensate the losses of farmers, especially the several rural areas that have been engulfed in water.

Mahmud 'Attarzadeh, Deputy From Samirom

Financially, the self-sufficiency program of the government organizations will not only create inflation, it will also encourage corruption.

The next speaker was 'Attarzadeh, deputy from Samirom. He commemorated the memory and the name of Martyr Motahari, the sacrifices made by the nation's teachers. He commemorated World Worker Day and said: Today more than at any other time, world imperialism is seeking to create and put pressure on the community of Islamic nations and especially the revolution nation of Iran.

He discussed the fact that the policy of economic adjustment designed for growth and development must not only be balanced and proportional, but it must also have real and executive coordination that is appropriate for the social structure and for the cultural, social, and economic requirements of the time. He said: In the policy of economic adjustment a general strategy is pursued to eliminate subsidies, adjust manpower, reduce currency in circulation, deregulate trade, unify the foreign exchange rate and strengthen the private sector. In view of the social and economic consequences of this policy for society, especially the oppressed and vulnerable classes, attention must be given to the following issues:

1 - The government and the executive officials must take the initiative in enduring the pressures resulting from implementation of the policy of economic adjustment, and they must endure some of the pressures imposed on the people by cutting expenses.

2 - In implementing the policy of economic adjustment planning must be done and solutions must be found for the problem of bringing the cost of living and the

incomes of the people into line with each other, yet presently there is no correspondence between incomes and costs.

3 - Careful and logical policies must be made regarding exports and imports, especially to alleviate the obstacles and restraining factors at the various stages of executive activity in export affairs.

4 - Real and more serious attention must be given to productive economic activities with reliance on domestic resources and priority to agriculture.

5 - Meeting import needs appropriate for a revolution society and designing suitable procedures and models for imports.

6 - The consumer models are not in conformity with the sacred goals of the revolution, and they severely exacerbate formalities and ceremony. The government and the officials must therefore take the initiative themselves and learn to economize and make do.

7 - Financially, the self-sufficiency program of the government organizations not only creates inflation and imposes pressures of life on the people, it also encourages corruption and undermines the public spirit of participation and forbearance.

In conclusion, he issued memos to the Ministry of Agriculture concerning concern for marketing and exporting Samirom's apples, to the Ministry of the Reconstruction Crusade concerning allocating more credits and banking facilities for the Regional Tribal Housing Project and attention to the small rural industries, to the Ministry of Energy concerning expediting dam construction in the region and trapping the region's water, to the Ministry of Roads and Transportation concerning expediting road reconstruction from Samirom to Shahr-e Reza, and to the Ministry of Education and Training about the creation of semicentralized rural schools and their services due to the scattered disposition of the rural areas.

Beytollah Ja'fari, Deputy From Urmia

The workers are the most valuable and profitable group in our society, and the nation's production is in their powerful hands.

Beytollah Ja'fari, deputy from Urmia, was the final preagenda speaker. He said: The workers are the most valuable and profitable group in our society, and the nation's productive life is in their powerful hands. I hope that one day we will be able to cap the oil wells and build the nation's economy on nonoil resources.

He read a selection of poetry concerning the position of the teacher and discussed the problems and difficulties in his electoral district. He said: Lake Urmia, with an area of 4,868 square kilometers, is considered the largest permanent water-collecting basin in Western Asia. It is 1,067 meters above sea level, and recently, with the rise in the water level, it has created numerous problems for those residing on its shores. The Council of Ministers must attend to this problem with special diligence, because about 7,000 hectares [ha] of useful pasture and 3,000 ha of farm land have been completely destroyed. Because the lake's water is salt water, in 15 more years these lands will be useless, and the government must find a basic solution for the farmers who have suffered.

At the present time, 30 rural areas are threatened by the water. It is highly likely that they will have to evacuate and move to another place.

He added: The facilities at Bandar-e Golmankhaneh are in danger. Damage is being caused, whose preliminary figure is 11 billion rials [R]. The solution is not for the officials to sit waiting and then after all this damage has been done undertake to compensate for the damage. The essential solution is to put large reservoir dams on the rivers that flow into Lake Urmia from West Azarbaijan. The precipitation provided by the Creator's mercy is wasted due to the lack of planning and the failure to deal with infrastructure in our region, and every year this damages the strategic agriculture sector. Despite the cries from the region's Majles deputies, attention is not given to these matters as it can and should be given. Nothing would be better than to invest in these provinces that have the ability to become Iran's great agricultural centers, along with the desert reclamation projects and the construction of multilane freeways in the middle of the country.

I ask the nation's media, especially the Voice and Vision organization, to portray in a clear and comprehensive way the suffering and disarray of the rural people who have been hurt by flooding and the rising salt waters.

Legislation

The first item on the agenda at yesterday's open Majles session was the report from the Islamic Guidance and Art Commission concerning the Motion To Inquire About Article 1 of the Law Prohibiting Ministries and Government Institutions and Companies From Printing and Publishing Nonessential Publications, enacted 7/29/1365 [21 October 1986], of which Article 1 was approved by the deputies.

Article 1: "The Law Prohibiting Ministries and Government Institutions and Companies From Printing and Publishing Nonessential Publications also includes the nation's municipalities."

It is worth mentioning that the publication of any kind of book, newspaper, magazine, similar publication, any kind of promotional paper or sheet, pamphlet, tract, poster or other item by government organizations was prohibited by the aforementioned law.

One of the important points in this motion to inquire was that the Guidance Commission agreed to exempt the municipalities from this law, but the Majles rejected that.

Concerning this motion, Mr. Movahedi-Saveji said: If the municipalities come and make huge expenditures on cards for invitations, congratulations, condolences in the Majles and other things, this is clearly against the interest of the people. The people are very unhappy about this money being spent on these things.

The second item on the agenda was the report from the Housing and Urban Construction Commission concerning the bill on the Amended Bilateral Transportation and Shipping Protocol for Moving Goods by Road, between the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, which was approved by the deputies.

The next item on the agenda was the report from the Plan and Budget Commission concerning the rejection of the proposed amendment to Paragraph A, Note 47 of the 1364 [21 March 1985-20 March 1986] National Budget Law, the principle of which was approved by the deputies.

Article 1: The official in charge of the provincial Islamic propaganda organization is added to the members of the province planning committee mentioned in Note 47 of the 1364 National Budget Law.

One of the reasons the commission rejected the aforementioned motion is the "executive point of view" of the work of the province planning committees, rather than cultural work.

The commission expert also said: If specific cultural problems arise in the planning committee, the provinciale general manager of guidance, who is on the committee, will solve them. Supporters of the motion argued that with the official in charge of the province propaganda organization on the committee, it would have a stronger cultural dimension. Just as there are many managers of economic organizations on the province planning committee, in addition to the general manager of guidance, the committee should also have as a cultural official the official in charge of the province propaganda organization

The fourth item on the agenda was the report from the Accounting Court Commission concerning the Proposed Law on Procedures for Spending Current and Development Credits for the Year 1372 [21 March 1993-20 March 1994] at Payam-e Nur University (returned from the Guardian Council).

According to Article 1, Payam-e Nur University is authorized, due to the special procedures in the educational system, to spend a maximum of 65 percent of its current expense and allocated credits and also 25 percent of its development credits based on the Law on Procedures for Carrying out Financial and Trade Affairs at Universities and Institutions of Higher Learning and Research, without observing the government's other general regulations.

The final item on the agenda was the report from the second consultation of the Agricultural Commission concerning the Motion To Form the Supreme Agriculture and Rural Development Council, continued consideration of which was deferred to the next session.

Measures Taken by Majles Commissions

Ministry of Intelligence Employment Bill

According to Article 21 of the aforementioned bill, to procure and train the technical and specialist cadres it needs, the Ministry of Intelligence may establish colleges or institutions of higher learning in fields not taught in the nation's universities, based on lawful regulations and requirements. This bill has been approved in the Joint Councils and National Domestic Affairs and Administrative and Employment Affairs Commission.

Bill Indexing Nongovernment Public Bodies and Institutions

Based on the above bill, the municipalities and affiliated units, as long as 50 percent of their shares and capital belongs to the municipalities, the Foundation for the Oppressed, the Red Cross, the Imam's Aid Committee, the Martyr Foundation, the Housing Foundation, the Iran National Olympic Committee, the 15 Khordad [5 June] Foundation, the Islamic Propaganda Organization and the Social Security Organization are included in the note for Article 5 of the Public Accounting Law enacted in 1366 [21 March 1987-20 March 1988].

Motion To Determine Recording Fees at Official Documents Offices

This motion states that in order to obtain the funds necessary to implement Articles 10, 11, 57, and 68 of the administrative laws for official documents. Every month these offices are required to pay 10 percent of the recording fees collected into the account for insurance, retirement, disability, and welfare, and treatment affairs for office heads and assistant office heads in the official documents offices and their dependents.

This motion was approved in the Judicial Affairs Commission, which was acting as the main commission.

Majles Notes

New Foreign Exchange Policy

Engineer Khamushi, deputy from Tehran, discussed the new foreign exchange policies. He said: If the new foreign exchange policies are properly implemented as announced, it will be constructive. That is, the banking system must act on requests to open credit accounts from the factories out of foreign exchange obtained from exports. In this case the foreign exchange market will cool down. The procedure recently announced is the same one implemented several months ago by the banks, which produced results controlling demand on the foreign exchange market.

Supreme Agricultural Council

One of the motions presented at yesterday's open Majles session was the motion to form the Supreme Agricultural Council. In this regard Engineer Jalali, chief of the Agriculture Commission, told our correspondent: To reach its goals, the agricultural sector needs extraordinary support to solve its problems, and it needs the necessary coordination between the relevant organizations. Exports of agricultural crops was one of the successful sectors under the First Five-Year Plan, and more than 120 percent of the designated goal was achieved.

Continuing, he said: With the formation of the Supreme Agricultural Council, supervision of planning in this sector, setting and designing guaranteed prices for agricultural crops, creating coordination between organizations, supervision of the procurement and training of manpower, policymaking to create conversion industries, support for the export of products from this sector, and supervision of the timely procurement of credits and banking facilities for the agricultural sector will be properly carried out.

He discussed the members of the Supreme Agricultural Council. He said: The president of the republic will serve as chief of the council and the minister of agriculture, the minister of the reconstruction crusade, the minister of energyr, the minister of economic and financial affairs, the minister of the interior, the chief of the Plan and Budget Organization, and the chief of the Environmental Protection Organization will serve as the main members. Two members of the Majles Agriculture Commission will attend meetings as observers.

Membership of Officials of the Islamic Propaganda Organization in Province Planning Committees

Following the approval of membership of officials from the Islamic Propaganda Organization in the province planning committees, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Mohammadi Eraqi told our correspondent: To distribute development credits and engender coordination between the organizations, province planning committees will be formed, with the participation of 17 executive officials and under the supervision of the governor-general. Despite the necessities that are felt with regard to cultural issues, so far the propaganda organization has not had members on these committees, and with Majles approval this will be done.

He added: Despite the fact that the propaganda organization does not have development credits approved by the Majles, so far it has carried out 250 development projects, some of which are half-complete. This organization's projects include the construction of 50 Koranic societies in the deprived areas. With the membership of representatives from this organization on the province planning committees, henceforth it will be possible to use local credits to complete the propaganda organization's half-complete projects.

10 May

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11 May 94 p 15

[Text] Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division. The Majles met in open session yesterday chaired by Mr. 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri and the deputies from the cities of Bandar-e Mahshahr, Dorud and Azna, Miyaneh, and Rudbar spoke as preagenda speakers. Then the speaker of the Majles gave a short speech in which he offered condolences to all Shiites on the martyrdom of Mohammad Taqi (peace be upon him). Then the Majles took up its agenda, and we direct the attention of our respected readers to the detailed proceedings.

Kemal Daneshyar, Deputy From Bandar-e Mahshahr

The roots of inflation and high prices include the failure to control the prices of goods and the failure to deal decisively with violators.

The first preagenda speaker at yesterday's open Majles session was Daneshyar, deputy from Bandar-e Mahshahr. During his speech he said: The most important economic problem is inflation and high prices. Most of that was unavoidable and inevitable, but unfortunately, contradictory and extremist economic policies and extremism and excesses have had their effects in this matter. An example worth mentioning is the previous government's severe and extreme approach to the imposition of price controls, compared to the policy of deregulation and releasing prices to float in the current government.

Continuing, he said: Supervision, monitoring, price setting, and dealing with violators, people selling at high prices, and hoarders must be done as soon as possible in a decisive and calculated way.

The speaker then discussed uprooting inflation and high prices. He said: The failure to control the prices of goods; the failure to deal decisively with violators; people selling at high prices and godless hoarders; ostentation; useless expenditures by officials; working too little; promoting the culture of too much consumption; weak management on the part of some executive officials, especially the failure to supervise quality control of the goods produced by domestic industries; the enormous expenses from the imposed war; military reconstruction and preparation in view of the malicious, Satanic qualities of the enemies of Islam; the rapid population increase to double the size of the last decade, along with the rapid increase in the consumer market; the failure to increase the gross national [product] to match the population increase and demand; the destructive effects of the wrong policies of the wretched monarchy's one-product economy; continued economic, military, and political plots by the enemy, especially the reduction in the price of oil and the economic embargo against Iran; are among the factors and roots of inflation and high prices. In this same regard Daneshyar said: It is a very

difficult task to determine the percentages of the above factors, inflation and high prices.

Continuing, the deputy from Mahshahr said: In view of the destructive and corrupting effects of using Western television programming and using satellite antennas, since in practice no technical or practical procedure has yet been recognized to intercept it, solutions proposed, including prohibiting the use of satellite antennas or strengthening and promoting the spirit of faith among the individuals in society to keep them from watching these destructive programs, definitely will not serve as the final solution.

In this same regard, the speaker then added: The Foreign Ministry has proposed via the United Nations and with the help of friendly countries, as a means of protecting the innocence and morality of human beings to prevent the destructive and corrupting effects of television programs broadcast from Western transmitters, to provide and implement restrictions, prohibitions and penalties against those who broadcast this type of vulgar programming.

Daneshyar also called upon the Shiite and Sunni clergy and the clergy of other religions of the book, especially the Christian clergy, to act jointly to confront this destructive cultural invasion.

The deputy from Mahshahr then discussed the consolidation of the Ministry of the Reconstruction Crusade and the Ministry of Agriculture. He said: In view of the fact that this proposal has weakened the performance of these two ministries, I propose, since most of the deputies are opposed to the motion to consolidate the two ministries, that this matter be taken off the agendas of the commissions and the Majles as soon as possible and that these debates be put to an end.

Continuing, the speaker discussed the problems in his electoral district. He said: In view of the reduced precipitation and the drought in the region, I ask the officials and especially the minister of agriculture and the chief of the Agriculture Bank to help the farmers and to allocate banking resources. Likewise, the important roads in the municipality of Mahshahr, including the freeway from Bandar-e Emam to Ahvaz, the freeway from Bandar-e Emam to Mahshahr, and the road from Omidiyeh to Ahvaz are causing problems because of their poor quality, and I ask the minister of roads and transportation to deal with the matter.

In conclusion, the deputy from Mahshahr asked Mr. Karbasian, chief of the Social Security Organization, to expedite construction of the Omidiyeh Hospital, which was planned under the First Five-Year Plan and is proceeding slowly.

Jahanshah Sadiq, Deputy From Dorud And Azna

In designing the Second Five-Year Plan the Majles must keep society's low-income classes in mind.

The next speaker was Sadiq, deputy from Dorud and Azna. He offered condolences on the occasion of the martyrdom anniversary of His Holiness Emam Javad (peace be upon him) and discussed the Second Five-Year Plan. He said: In this regard, friend and foe are watching the Majles and are waiting for the results of the Majles studies.

Fortunately, in this regard the Majles has lighting its way the guidance from the exalted leader as an important element of support. Naturally, it must keep the affairs of the oppressed and low-income classes of society in mind at every stage. In addition to that it must strive in every way possible to reduce dependence on oil revenues in the Second Five-Year Plan, which has become an implement in the hands of the enemies of the Islamic Republic of Iran as a destructive political item. This cannot be done without increasing nonoil exports, and comprehensive government and Majles support must be given to domestic products, especially the production of crops and products that can definitely be produced in the country but that are imported with excessive foreign exchange expenditures.

He added: A fundamental question today is, are we going to repeat the same mistake that was made under the First Five-Year Plan, which is giving excessive support to industry while remaining indifferent to investment in the agricultural sector?

There is no doubt that investment to a reasonable extent in the industrial sector is both necessary and inevitable, but which industry?

He added: Isn't it true that nonoil exports from the agricultural sector were 123 percent of the target set in the First Five-Year Plan, and yet exports in the other industries, especially in the industrial sector, did not even reach 50 percent of expectations? If, despite all the unkindness towards the agricultural sector, this sector was able to achieve all the goals set for it in the First Five-Year Plan, it is because today we have the message from the agricultural sector that investment in this sector is the most reasonable step to which we must give attention.

Continuing his remarks, Sadiq said: Unlike industry, agriculture is instantly obedient to the nation's executive system. The production line can be changed any instant. It can be planned in accordance with the nation's needs, while to change the production line in industrial factories requires changing many of the systems prevailing in the factory and the expenditure of huge sums.

To give attention to the agricultural sector is to apply the guidance from the late Imam about making efforts to achieve the nation's self-sufficiency and obeying the guidance from the leader of the revolution about giving attention to agriculture, and nothing other than this is expected from the Majles.

He then discussed the decisions made concerning this province by the president of the republic and the exalted

leader during their recent trip. He said: The people of Lorestan are joyous about the attention from the exalted leader and the president of the republic in the framework of the success implementing the projects and programs to save the province from deprivation. However, making the successes, which have been achieved, requires effort, persistence, and expeditious measures by the respected ministers and the relevant executive organizations, and the people continue to watch them expectantly. We have said repeatedly that the petrochemical and refinery complexes were to have been built in Lorestan, but unfortunately the justification is not clear for moving this project to Arak, when it could have solved many of the problems of the province of Lorestan.

The deputy from Dorud and Azna asked officials to provide gas service to Lorestan, and he discussed the efforts by the minister of the interior to elevate Azna to a municipality and the president of the republic's agreement. He said: The lands given to staff employees and educators have remained in their hands due to the preparation project. They have sold much of their furniture and resources to pay the fees to prepare the land, yet they are still unable to do the preparation work.

Seyyed Hoseyn Hashemi, Deputy From Miyaneh

The Second Five-Year Plan must clearly specify the goals of privatization.

The third preagenda speaker was Hashemi, deputy from Miyaneh. In his speech he discussed the aggression against Muslims in the world. He said: The imperialist world has made a serious decision in different ways to weaken the Muslim world, and to prevent in any way possible the expansion of the ideas of revolutionary Islam and the Islam of Muhammad (peace be upon him). On the other hand, despite all the imperialistic effort, every day we see more harmony in the Islamic nation and the expansion of this great Islamic thinking everywhere in the world.

He condemned the PLO treaty with Israel and discussed the Second Five-Year Plan. He said: Although we had good successes implementing the First Five-Year Plan in the agricultural, industrial and mining sectors, these successes reduced our need for imports in many areas. A more desirable process must be implemented in studying these experiences and careful expert work in the Second Five-Year Plan.

He added: An example is the policies in the system for alleviating deprivation in the nation's deprived and underdeveloped areas, which is being done to implement social justice. It is appropriate to give special attention to this in the Second Five-Year Plan, taking inspiration from the views of the exalted leader. We can guide capital into these areas by making appropriate policies such as special tax and insurance exemptions and special allocations for service lines, water prices, consumer electrical power, and providing banking facilities on easier terms and at lower fees.

Concerning the matter of privatization, he noted: The transfer of government units in the current way, mostly by organizations, bodies, banks and other entities, each of which is a part of the nation's public system, will not bring us to our goal in this regard. Therefore, the Second Five-Year Plan must clearly specify the goal of privatization. Is it to eliminate private sector currency in circulation, or to start up new units and transfer existing government units? He discussed the use of existing capacities, completing half-complete units and rebuilding government and private units and building them anew. He said: These units must have a specific policy throughout the Second Five-Year Plan, one of which must be regarding exports as the main key to solving the production problem, and that needs a special policy to support exports in the Second Five-Year Plan. Especially with the unification of the foreign exchange rate, a good process has been set in motion, but it is not enough. We have had little success in the area of manufactured industrial goods such as capital and intermediate goods.

Continuing, the deputy from Miyaneh discussed the consolidation of the industrial ministries. He said: I do not consider the current effort to consolidate as being appropriate. I recommend that in the first phase the Ministry of Industries and the Ministry of Heavy Industries be consolidated and that the Ministry of Mines and Metals operate independently for a time so it can find its place in the nation's economy, especially in the area of nonoil exports.

Jamshid Qanbarian, Deputy From Miyaneh

It is hoped that with the activation of the Azerbaijan Steel Complex Project the problem of employment in the area will be solved.

Another preagenda speaker was Qanbarian, deputy from Miyaneh. He expressed thanks for the appointment of Mr. Hamedi as Friday Imam of Miyaneh and offered congratulations on the arrival of Teacher Day. He said: One of the region's main problems is absolute unemployment and intense emigration. Unfortunately every year several villages are emptied of their residents because of this same emigration, in such a way that this region now has negative population growth.

He added: The only solution is to create employment in the area, and it is hoped that with the activation of the Azarbaijan Steel Complex project this social problem will be solved in the area. In the same regard I give the utmost thanks to the exalted leader for his comprehensive support for solving the executive problems in this project.

He thanked the Ministry of Petroleum for its success implementing the project to deliver gas service to Miyaneh, he thanked the minister of post, telegraph and telephone concerning the unstinting activities of the ministry's officials in the region to meet telephone

communications needs and the president of the republic's Deprived Regions Office for granting recognition as deprived regions to the villages in the warm southern region.

He then said: Due to the lack of an active police presence throughout the roads and freeways, the drivers of tractor-trailer rigs and heavy trucks have destroyed driving security without police monitoring. Every day tens of innocent people lose their lives on these roads, and the minister of the interior is expected to pay special attention to this matter.

Faramarz Golshani, Deputy From Rudbar

What makes the earthquake victims happy is having officials in their midst.

The final preagenda speaker was Golshani, deputy from Rudbar. He discussed the passage of four years since the Rudbar earthquake and the approaching anniversary for this disaster. He said: The only thing that makes the people happy is having national officials in their midst. Last year the speaker of the Majles and deputies and officials came, and this year we are also to have the honor of their presence. They will see the great reconstruction that has begun at the government's capable hands and to help alleviate the shortages.

The speaker discussed the president of the republic's impending trip to Rudbar. Continuing, he discussed the shortages in this earthquake-stricken municipality.

1. There are still 65 schools that were destroyed by the earthquake and have not yet been rebuilt, and the students from these schools are studying in Suleh and in inappropriate places.
2. Sixtyy-six of the municipality's rural areas lack electrical power, 96 rural areas lack sanitary drinking water, and 200 kilometers of rural roads are also in need of asphalt.
3. Fifty percent of the credits to build 84 mosques, 31 of which are under construction, is needed.
4. The financial situation of the people is such that there is no possibility of meeting the expenses of municipal government through normal revenues. Therefore, urban development needs reinforcement of the tax base.
5. Continuing, he added: Inadequate allocations of loans and materials for home construction and other problems have caused most housing units for earthquake victims to be abandoned after 70 to 80 percent completion. Therefore, loans of at least 200 million rials for each urban and rural family would complete half-complete homes.
6. The people of the municipality are from the low-income classes, and in view of the extensive losses the earthquake has brought to them, they are unable to repay pre-earthquake housing and business loans.

Mr. Golshani asked for loan forgiveness and also for the extension of repayment periods on postearthquake loans until the end of the year 1373 [20 March 1975].

Continuing, the speaker added: The 100-bed Rudbar hospital was destroyed by the earthquake, and the current hospital has been created in Suleh. It does not have the appropriate quality and is in need of credit procurement. The cities of Rudbar, Rostamabad, Manjil, and Lushan lack a suitable drinking water network, and the cities within the municipality's boundaries do not have a sewage system. Credits need to be obtained to fight pestilence, irrigate date trees and plant rice in the area and to rebuild the cities.

The speaker continued: Before the earthquake about 1 million loans existed in the municipality, and this number has decreased to one-quarter of that figure. Livestock keepers are in need of serious support. Despite the fact that the minister of petroleum has broken ground for the project, construction work on providing gas service to the cities of Rudbar, Rostamabad and Tut-e Kabon has yet to begin.

At the end of his speech he said: I ask that when the president of the republic comes to the area these projects be supported and receive financial assistance.

Legislation

The first item on the agenda at yesterday's open Majles session was the report from the first consultation of the Agriculture Commission on the motion to create the Supreme Agriculture and Rural Development Council, the general form of which was not approved and was rejected.

It is worth mentioning that in the aforementioned motion, the duties of the Supreme Agriculture Council were described as follows: "Dealing with executive problems in the programs pertaining to the agricultural sector, supervision of the performance of programs in the agricultural sector, supervision of the procurement and organization of statistics and information having to do with the agricultural sector's needs and supervision of their precise implementation, policy making to create conversion industries and installations to store agricultural crops, supervision of the timely procurement of credits and facilities for the agricultural sector, and other things."

One of the reasons used by those opposing this proposal is that there is no reason to put the various sectors in the hands of a council. What good have the existing councils done for the people? Therefore, the councils do not solve any problems, they create problems.

Likewise, the supporters claim that it is necessary to have a council led by the president of the republic to support agriculture, in order to solve these problems that exist.

The second item on the agenda was the report from the Supreme Education Council concerning the Bill To Amend Article 2 of the Law on Procedures for Procuring Faculty Needed at the Nation's Universities and Institutions of Higher Learning, enacted in 1365 [21 March 1986-20 March 1987], the general form of which was put to a vote and approved.

Article 1 of the bill states: "The phrase 'and animal husbandry' is added after the phrase 'medical group fields' in the text of Article 2 of the Law on Procedures for Procuring Faculty Needed at the Nation's Universities and Institutions of Higher Learning, enacted 3/1/1365 [22 May 1986]."

It is also worth mentioning that professors in the animal husbandry fields may, as in the medical group fields, make use of the facilities and benefits in this law, and this will have a striking effect in raising the level of quality in this field.

The next item on the agenda was the report from the Commerce Commission concerning the Bill To Amend Note 1, Article 5, of the Law Amending the Guild System Law Enacted 2/31/1368 [21 May 1989].

The amendment to this bill says: "Within one year of the date this law's enforcement becomes obligatory, all the companies subject to the Guild System Law are required to obtain business licenses from the relevant union. Newly established companies are required within one year of their registration to obtain a business from the relevant union in order to begin operations."

The fourth item on the agenda was the report from the First Consultation of the Councils and Domestic Affairs Commission Concerning the Motion To Suspend the Period of Obligatory Service for Graduates from the Judicial Affairs Colleges in the Nation's Public Prosecutor's Offices and Judicial Courts, continued consideration of which was postponed to the next session.

The aforementioned motion states: "Under this law, graduates from the judicial affairs colleges affiliated with the Ministry of Justice of the Islamic Republic of Iran who have not performed their service as soldiers, upon the recommendation of the judicial power and with the agreement of the General Armed Forces Staff, provided they commit to at least five years of service in the judicial power, are exempt from service under the flag in peacetime after the completion of the commitment."

Arrival Announced of Question From a Number of Deputies Concerning the Reason for Increasing Telephone Rates

Arrival was announced of the question from a number of deputies, including Sharifi, deputy from Arak; Tavakoli, deputy from Khomeyn; Yusefpur, deputy from Ardel and Fars; Majidi, deputy from Fasa; and Noruzi, deputy from Molayer; to the minister of post, telegraph and telephone concerning the reason for the collection from telephone service subscribers of telephone tariffs in excess of the amount approved by the Majles.

Weekly Programs of Majles Commissions

Introduction: Printed below for your consideration are the weekly programs of the Majles commissions this week.

Education and Training Commission
Study of the Motion To Supervise Foreign Trips by Government Workers

Islamic Guidance and Art and Media Communications Commission
Invitation to the insiders in the Sacred Defense Cinema Society

Plan and Budget Commission
Study of the nonoil exports sector in the Second Five-Year Plan
Motion To Control the Prices of Goods and Services

Labor and Social Affairs Commission
Motion To Prohibit the Use of Western Terms, Names, and Expressions

National Councils and Domestic Affairs Commission
Continued study of the articles from the Bill on Employment Regulations for the Police Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Post, Telegraph and Power Affairs Commission
Invitation to Engineer Gharazi to answer the question from a number of deputies concerning communications and postal tariffs

Majles Notes

Presentation of the Question to the Minister of Mines and Metals Concerning the Performance of the Mobarakeh Steel Complex

Next week the question from the deputy from Hamadan to the minister of mines and metals concerning the Mobarakeh Steel Complex and its affiliated complexes will be on the open Majles agenda.

In this regard Mr. Habibian told our parliamentary correspondent: I submitted three questions for the Majles to the minister of mines and metals. The first question asks about the level of steel production and to what extent it conforms to the goals in the First Five-Year Plan. In this regard there are indications that performance was not in accordance with the First Five-Year Plan. In the commission the respected minister of mines and metals was also asked to provide information about this sector, but so far, about a month later, the necessary information has not been made available to us.

The second question is about the procedure for selling steel, and the question is, have the domestic markets been saturated, that steel is now being exported?

The third question, which is more important and worries us more, is the question of steel shipments. In recent months these shipments have gone to parts of the world such as China to be sold and have then returned to the country after a time, and in this regard large sums have been paid for demurrage (reparations paid for losses caused by shipping delays).

Majles Oversight of Nonessential Foreign Trips

Concerning Majles oversight of nonessential foreign trips, which will be done based on Note 13 of the 1373 [21 March 1994-20 March 1995] National Budget Law, Mr. Beytollah Ja'fari, deputy from Urmia, told our correspondent: The motivation for Majles oversight is that we want to be able to study and make decisions concerning the number of people going and whether or not the trip will have positive effects for the country in terms of its essential purpose.

According to the general evaluation that was made, the number of delegations sent abroad was in excess of the number necessary and in most cases ancillary tasks were undertaken beyond the main goals of the trip, and this has caused the imposition of millions of dollars in nonessential expenditures on the nation's budget.

11 May

94LA0162A Tehran RESALAT in Persian
12 May 94 p 6

[Text] Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division. The Majles met in open session yesterday chaired by Mr. 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri, and the deputies from Mashhad, Khorramabad, Khodabandeh, and Ahar and Haris gave preagenda speeches. Then the Majles took up its agenda, and we direct the attention of our esteemed readers to the detailed proceedings.

Mohammad Hadi-'Abdkhoda'i, Deputy From Mashhad

It is the skilled academic work force that is bringing the nation to a peak of cultural, political and economic authority.

The first preagenda speaker at yesterday's open Majles session was 'Abdkhoda'i, deputy from Mashhad. He offered condolences on the martyrdom of Imam Javad (peace be upon him). He said: The Majles is at the end of the First Five-Year Plan and the beginning of the Second Five-Year Plan. There is much to say about the splendidness of the Islamic revolution and its power to endure, about the crimes of world imperialism and its practices, about the cultural invasion and ostentation, about the economic programs and the mistakes of some of their planners, about high prices, inflation and ways to keep them down, about balance between the private and government sectors and avoiding one-dimensional activity, about controlling prices, about excessive purchases of goods, about borrowing and its consequences, and about the need for subsidies to support the deprived. He continued: The Second Five-Year Plan must bring the country as close as possible to independence and nondependence. It must rely on high production, less consumption, more exports and fewer imports, and it must anticipate consequences and problems.

The speaker also discussed higher education programs. He said: The experts are presenting factors that will help a country grow and develop such as natural resources, manpower and proper management, but above all these things one can consider skilled academic manpower. Even capable management and useful manpower arise from their ranks.

Continuing, 'Abdkhoda'i said: It is the skilled academic work force that is bringing the nation to a peak of cultural, political and economic authority and makes the best use of natural resources.

The deputy from Mashhad said that to the extent it is able the government must invest in manpower training in the Second Five-Year Plan. He said: In this regard there is need for several reminders:

1. Manpower training must be done with proper planning based on needs.

2. The educational centers must definitely place great emphasis on the quality of education. Today we have little skilled manpower at the research and doctoral levels compared to our needs, and in this regard the doctoral programs must be reinforced both in quality and quantity.

3. The universities must give importance to applied knowledge and make knowledge work with ability. Some of our professors are even more advanced than the foreign professors academically, but unfortunately there are two shortages. One is that although they are strong in theory, in the area of practice they are not as strong, and they also lack the tools for work.

'Abdkhoda'i then said: A short experiment in the year 1372 [21 March 1993-20 March 1994] was hopeful. As the result of cooperation between the academic institutions and the executive universities, by the end of the month of Azar [30 December], 453 projects were carried out or were under way. A total of 19.8 billion rials was spent and there was a good return.

The speaker discussed education at the doctoral level. He said: It was a disaster at our universities that last year in the nonmedical fields we had only about 1,200 doctoral students inside the country. In the same regard I must say that one of the benefits of forming the Ministry of Health was the admission of more students. In the year 1356 [21 March 1977-20 March 1978] 844 students were admitted, but in the year 1365 [21 March 1986-20 March 1987] the number reached 6,480, almost eight times as many, and this is considered a source of pride for the Islamic Republic of Iran. Unfortunately, however, after that the figures declined, so that in the year

1372 medical student admissions throughout the country was 3,656, and this figure is fully evocative.

The deputy from Mashhad discussed the shortage of physicians in the country and the fact that the number of our physicians is about one-fifth the number of physicians in some industrial nations. He said: Why are our professors unable to accept more students?

At the end of his speech, the deputy from Mashhad discussed the deprived areas in the Second Five-Year Plan. He said: On the fringes of the major cities and also in their rural areas we have places that are living in deprivation, but because they are close to prosperous areas, they do not receive the benefits of deprived areas, and their needs must definitely be addressed. Today one of the important sources of foreign exchange is tourism, and Mashhad can be the best base for attracting visitors from all the Islamic nations. However, the government must invest, and it must see Mashhad as a national city in relation to all of Iran and an international city in the world of Islam.

Mohammad Saleh-Taheri, Deputy From Khorramabad

In the last 15 years we have not had a firm and comprehensive policy on economic matters.

The next speaker was Taheri, deputy from Khorramabad. In his speech he said: In the last year we have not had a firm and comprehensive policy on economic matters. Although the president of the republic, as the most concerned executive official, has always worked unceasingly and has not been out of range or immune to damage from domestic and foreign enemies, God has always been generous with his boundless help at sensitive times.

He added: The chaotic foreign exchange market; the 7-tuman competitive rate and the 80-tuman rate for foreign exchange; the failure to anchor the inflationary rate for the dollar; the release of contradictory guidelines by the banks themselves; insubstantial and increasing taxes, which in my view erode the principle of investment; increases in the rate on bank deposits to 18.5 percent by the Money and Credit Council, which is very strongly rumored; the increase in the rate on foreign exchange for investment in projects without setting priorities; and the failure to control either the unregulated or the government prices. [sentence as published]

The deputy from Khorramabad noted: For example, the price of a kilogram of cucumbers increases from 15 to 150 tumans between the time it leaves the hands of the producer until it reaches the consumer of Africa Street. The oil price crisis and the playing with OPEC that is being done by foreigners and economic speculators, low prices whenever production is high, low production whenever prices are high and thousands of other problems have given our country an ailing economy.

Our people know well that everyone was mobilized during the war and they were never psychologically shocked in victory or in defeat under the leadership of the late leader of the revolution, the fifth anniversary of whose death is approaching, because the participation of the people and the close relationship between the leader and the people prevailed over the problem of the war. Unfortunately, that formula is not working in the economic situation.

He explained that in his view the people are innocent. He said: The people do not doubt the sincerity of the officials. Today economic planning requires a lot of manpower. A handful of experts, no matter how good, will not solve the problem. Mr. Hashemi is the guardian of policy, culture, society, and religion. Economics is another matter.

In my view we need to reconsider the situation. I myself have been among the gentlemen for 30 years, with the revolutionaries both before and after the opening of Mecca. We ourselves still have not been unable to understand, much less our other people. Deputies, there is still time, but tomorrow will be too late. While we still have these honest companions of the Imam, while we are still under the shadow of the leader and the vice regency of the chief jurisconsult, who always has the last word, you must clarify the nation's economic situation. This problem must be solved.

Taheri discussed the fact that we do not reject work and service in the country. He said: Work has been done in all the ministries. These communications and their extensive reach, fiber optics and copper cable in Yazd, petrochemicals in Bandar-Emam and thousands of other phenomena are undeniable. These phenomena should stimulate questions and conversation, instead of us having interpellation and bringing the country to a standstill, although interpellation is the clear right of the deputies and in some cases is a necessary and unavoidable procedure.

The blessed trip by the president of the republic to the province of Lorestan, the new political coordination in the province thanks to his visit, and the documented report from the province's political official made at the Administrative Council in the presence of the president of the republic were and are desired by all the general managers, Friday imams and the province's contingent of deputies, and the report must be published in the province.

He added: Among this trip's many blessings was the lighting of the gas flame at Borujerd and Aligudarz and the ground breaking for the gas facilities at Khorramabad by the minister of petroleum. For this purpose 2 billion tumans has been set aside and allocated. The rightful promise of the petrochemical units in the province are compensation for the losses to Lorestan caused by the oppressive construction of the petrochemical complex in Arak. Continuing, Taheri issued a memo to the minister of the interior about creating governorates in Azna, Alshotor, and Poldokhtar. He noted: The main problem in the country is clarification of the economic

situation and its disrupted state in all its dimensions. The main problem in the province of Lorestan is unemployment, unemployment and unemployment.

Seyyed Mohammad 'Ali Musavi, Deputy From Khodabandeh

The Second Five-Year Plan must be designed in such a way that the people will be optimistic about the nation's future.

The next speaker was Musavi, deputy from Khodabandeh. During his speech he offered condolences on the occasion of the martyrdom of Imam Mohammad Taqi (peace be upon him). He discussed the exalted leader's New Year's message with regard to the work ethic, social order, and designing the Second Five-Year Plan. He expressed the hope that the plan will be designed in such a way that the people will be more optimistic than before about the nation's future.

The speaker then discussed the report on activities carried out by the president of the republic with regard to the First Five-Year Plan. He said: It is hoped that the Majles and the toiling government will take hopeful steps to stop the bad effects of inflation and high prices and to reform the nation's administrative structure, which is already under discussion.

The deputy from Khodabandeh then discussed the various advances that have been made in the country. He said: In the year 1357 [21 March 1978-20 March 1979] 3.79 million tons of wheat was produced, while 10.8 million tons was produced in the year 1372. With regard to communications, the results of one year of activity in communications were equal to 20 years of communications activity before the revolution.

In conclusion, he said:

1. The minister of petroleum is asked to take note of the cold climate in the Khodabandeh region and its short season for laying gas pipes, and he is asked to give attention to the matter of supplying gas service to this municipality.
2. I ask the minister of roads and transportation to deal expeditiously with the first section of the road from Qidar to Bijar, which was abandoned incomplete, while its second section from Bijar to the east was completed, and also to attend to the road from Qidar to Kabudarahang, on which work is proceeding slowly.
3. I asked the minister of agriculture to help his representative more than before with the procurement of agricultural implements.

Valiollah Ahmadi-Zadsaray, Deputy From Ahar and Haris

To solve the problems of the people, some thinking must be done so that they will no longer be subjected to the pressures of inflation and high prices.

Ahmadi-Zadsaray, deputy from Ahar and Haris, was the final preagenda speaker. During his speech he offered condolences on the martyrdom of Imam Mohammad Taqi (peace be upon him) and he commemorated Teacher Week. He said: Now, as the task of studying the government's Second Five-Year Plan is on the agendas of the Majles commissions, I ask my respected colleagues to give attention to the following as they study the plan: In view of the situation that has developed and is developing in the world with regard to oil prices, destroying the justification for the prices, in designing the Second Five-Year Plan measures must be adopted to deliver the nation from dependence on oil, and the planners must give great importance to agricultural and livestock products and their export.

He added: Many studies must be done concerning the creation of conversion industries and agriculture and animal husbandry, and we must give priority to the creation of such industries. The importation of nonessential and decorative goods must be avoided.

Consideration must be given to the problem of youth unemployment, especially those who have sacrificed, combatants and injured war veterans, and more attention must be given to the creation of employment-creating projects. To solve the problems of the people, especially the deprived and oppressed classes of society and the government staff workers, they must do some thinking and planning so they will no longer be subjected to the pressures of inflation and high prices.

He expressed thanks for the trip by the minister of energy and his entourage to the area. He said: During Teacher Week Ahar witnessed the minister of education and training going among the people and the teachers. On the auspicious occasion of this esteemed week, the teacher training building was opened, and I thank him for that.

I ask the government to allocate industrial and employment-creating projects in view of the fact that the necessary potential exists in the municipalities of Ahar and Haris, and to take effective steps to create employment for the region's unemployed to bring about economic growth in the region.

I ask the minister of education and training and the minister of higher education to start the agricultural college that was approved years ago, and to construct a building on the donated land. He also mentioned the shortage of athletic facilities in his electoral district.

Legislation

Motion on Procedures for Rendering Obligatory Service for Graduates in the Judicial Sciences

The first item on the agenda at yesterday's open Majles session was continued consideration of the report from the first consultation of the Councils and Domestic Affairs Commission concerning the Motion To Spend the Period of Obligatory Service for Graduates From the

Judicial Affairs Colleges in the Nation's Public Prosecutor's Offices and Judicial Courts, the general form of which was approved.

It is worth mentioning that the aforementioned motion states: "Graduates from the judicial affairs colleges affiliated with the Ministry of Justice of the Islamic Republic of Iran who have not performed their service as soldiers, provided they commit to at least five years of service in the judicial power, are exempt from service under the flag in peacetime."

Reasoning of Opponents and Supporters

To summarize the remarks of the motion's opponents, this action is discriminatory and is not a good innovation. What is the difference between law colleges and other universities and the Ministry of Justice Judicial Sciences College, that the students in the judicial sciences should be exempt, but not students from the other colleges? The other government universities are going to learn that they must say that their graduates should be exempt from service as soldiers.

Supporters of the motion claim that this action is not discriminatory, but it is a solution to the nation's judicial problems. They say if it were discriminatory, we would not permit students in teacher training colleges to spend their obligatory military service time as teachers in various regions.

Likewise, with regard to this motion, Dr. Shahrzad, deputy from Esfahan, issued a warning in accordance with Article 75 of the Constitution that this motion entails a financial burden and is a violation of the Constitution.

Motion To Elect Members of the Commission To Reclaim the Wages of Deputies From Dissolved Majleses

The second item on the agenda was the report from the first consultation of the Judicial and Legislative Affairs Commission concerning the Motion To Elect Members of the Commission To Reclaim the Wages of Deputies From Dissolved Majleses, the general form of which was not approved and was rejected.

It is worth mentioning that Article 1 of the motion states: "The chiefs of the Judicial Affairs Commission and the Accounting Court and the chief of the Majles Administrative Organization are designated as members of the commission mentioned in the Law on Procedures for Collecting the Wages Paid to Those Who Were Appointed as Deputies between 3/15/1342 [June 5 1963] through 11/22/1357 [11 February 1979], enacted 5/19/1358 [August 10 1979], and the amendment dated 3/25/1359 [15 June 1980]."

Iran Joins the Maritime Search and Rescue Convention

The next item on the agenda was the report from the Housing and Urban Construction Commission concerning the Bill To Add the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Maritime Search and Rescue Convention. The aforementioned bill was approved by the Majles.

Bill on Employment and Social Facilities for Wounded Veterans

The next item on the agenda was the report from the first consultation of the Administrative and Employment Affairs Commission on the Bill on Employment and Social Facilities for Wounded Veterans of the Islamic Revolution, the general form of which was approved.

The aforementioned bill's goals include:

(a) creating the necessary conditions to preserve and extend the spiritual and ongoing presence of wounded veterans in economic and cultural settings

(b) supporting the aspirations, perpetuating the ideological and cultural activities of wounded veterans and improving their individual, family and social circumstances

(j) creating the ability to apply and coordinate the nation's administrative and employment regulations with the special bodily circumstances of wounded war veterans.

Rashidi, the commission's expert, said concerning this bill: The period allowed for the experimental implementation of this law, which was approved in the year 1369 [21 March 1990-20 March 1991], has already expired, and the government has presented this bill to the Majles.

He then added: It is the duty of the government and the Majles to strive to alleviate the social deficiencies for our sacrificing wounded war veterans, who have expended their bodies and souls to preserve and guard the valuable achievements of the Islamic revolution, and who now have bodily and psychological defects.

Motion To Prohibit the Use of Satellite Antennas

The Motion To Prohibit the Use of Satellite Antennas (Dish Antennas) was presented by a number of deputies as a single-urgency motion. Mr. Nateq-Nuri deemed it advisable to give priority consideration to this motion and to have it placed on the Majles agenda as an ordinary motion with priority.

It is worth mentioning in this regard that Mr. Nateq-Nuri said: This motion does not need an urgency rating, but I ask that it be given priority.

This motion, whose arrival was announced at the Wednesday open Majles session (yesterday), emphasis is given to the prohibition on importing, construction, distribution and use of the satellite antennas.

The motion states: The Ministry of the Interior is required to use the police to gather up satellite antennas in the shortest time possible, through the use of police forces.

The Ministry of the Interior is also required to use any possible means to prevent the importation, manufacture or distribution of satellite antennas, and, in the course of confiscating the aforementioned implements, to turn over the perpetrators to the competent courts.

In this bill, which was signed by about 20 deputies, penalties are provided for violators.

Views of Engineer Yusefpur Concerning the Motion To Prohibit Satellite Dishes

Mr. Yusefpur, deputy chief of the Councils Commission and deputy from Ardel, discussed the Motion To Prohibit Satellite Dishes with our parliamentary correspondent. He said: Because satellite dishes are a new phenomenon in our country and because there is now no law of any kind concerning their use or prohibition, and because the executive organizations are now uncertain how to deal with them, a motion was prepared to permit individuals and organizations who need to use satellite dishes to perform their duties with authorization from the Ministry of Islamic Guidance.

He noted: Currently the use of satellite dishes is prohibited to all the people except in special cases in most Western and non-Islamic nations. We must realize that the Western nations are not willing to tolerate the slightest cultural phenomenon from us. How can we leave them free to freely spread various kinds of political and cultural propaganda in our country?

Discussing the important points in this bill, Mr. Yusefpur said: In this motion the unauthorized use of satellite dishes is prohibited, importers and producers will be punished, and the satellite antennas will be collected.

In conclusion he said: Some people believe that the phenomenon of satellite dishes cannot be physically opposed, but these people must be told that there is a way to fight any technical or specialist phenomenon that is produced.

15 May

94LA0163A Tehran RESALAT in Persian
16 May 94 p 5

[Text] Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division. The Majles met in open session yesterday chaired by Mr. 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri and the deputies from Tehran, Khorramabad, Urmia, and Khorramshahr gave preagenda speeches.

Then the Majles took up its agenda, and we direct the attention of our esteemed readers to the detailed proceedings.

'Abbas Shibani, Deputy From Tehran

The commands in the Koran and the speeches of the saints are not merely sermons. We ourselves must first act.

The first preagenda speaker at yesterday's open Majles session was Shibani, deputy from Tehran. During his speech he said: Instead of a preagenda speech, I wanted to observe 10 minutes of silence. Perhaps this silence will be more expressive than my inexpressive remarks. I have admired the president of the republic for more than 35 years, and I have been obedient to the leader since before the Islamic revolution.

Continuing, the speaker added: Before anything else, I advise myself to be pious, for that is needed now more than at any other time. We are on the eve of the fifth anniversary of the Imam's death. We were unable to recognize that unique gentleman's concern for supporting Islam, the revolution, and the deprived and oppressed people, and we did not act on his advice in accordance with our duty to do so.

Continuing, Shibani said: Our old father, our Imam, and our leader, said that the people are our benefactors, but unfortunately our unsuitable performance has disappointed them in us and our revolution. Wasn't it his eternal cry to the people and especially to the officials, not to forget the greatest jihad, which is struggle with the base self?

The deputy from Tehran said that if the Imam was able to stand up against the superpowers, it was because he was master of himself. He said: If we do not see this ability in ourselves, it is because we are prisoners of our base selves.

Continuing, Shibani also added: Wasn't it Gandhi, the leader of the Indian people, who stood up to the English imperialists and said: I will wear my own handwoven burlap clothing, and I will not submit to the humiliation of using foreign goods?

The speaker discussed the fact that we consider ourselves Shiites and the nation of this Imam (peace be upon His Holiness 'Ali). He said: Now the latest machinery and various kinds of foreign food and beverages are abundant in this land, and every year our indebtedness to others increases.

Shibani discussed the fact that as the managers of the Islamic government, we need first to develop ourselves. He said: What I am saying is that we should not treat the commands in the Koran and the speeches of the saints merely as sermons. We ourselves must first act. My purpose in making the request I made and am making of the president of the republic and that has been approved by the leader that he hold morality classes for me was that these matters be promoted so that the people will know what has been said to us and to what extent we have acted upon it.

Shibani added: Of course, I have a lifetime behind me and I do not have that much hope of reforming myself. My hopes are in the young generation and the Majles, so that we can review what has happened and change our procedures and policies.

The speaker asked that more attention be given to the reconstruction of Abadan and Khorramshahr. With regard to price controls, he said: Without Majles approval, no sector in the government or its companies has the right to increase prices, and the judiciary must help with this matter. If someone says this cannot be done, I say it can. Give me the authority and I will do it myself. Nonessential expenditures must be avoided, purchases must be made with care. There are many hospitals throughout the country whose return is no more than 20 percent. Instead of building new hospitals, let them equip these hospitals so that they can better answer to the needs of the people.

He discussed moral and cultural decadence. He said: You must first think of bread before you can promote faith. Do not fear satellites and antennas. You must train us in such a way that we will not use videos, television, and harmful programming.

At the end of his speech, the speaker asked the minister of cooperatives to try to consolidate consumer cooperatives in order to provide the people with goods at lower prices.

Akbar Farid, Deputy From Khorramabad

I recommend that officials investigate the results of seminars, meetings, and guidelines without advance notification.

The next speaker was Farid, deputy from Khorramabad. In his speech he offered condolences on the anniversary of the martyrdom of the Iranian pilgrims to the House of God. With reference to the geographic position of the province of Lorestan, he said: This province, with all its characteristics, which are known to all, is at the top of the national deprivation table. Its deprivation is striking in all areas, including roads, education, industry, and classroom space, and the deprivation is more evident in the province's central municipality than it is in the other municipalities.

He added: The city's main streets are in poor condition and full of unemployed individuals, the old alleyways have not been improved, the entry and exit routes have not been widened, and due to their makeup these things show the deprivation all the more.

The deprivation is such that its dimensions in this city have been confirmed by all the dear ones who have been in this city and its environs. The deprivation in our city and province has a historical precedent, which revolves around the commitment, religious belief, honesty, and bravery of the people of this region.

The deputy from Khorramabad then discussed the struggles of the children of Lor. He said: After Reza Khan came to dominate the Lorestan region with thousands of tricks, plots, and deceptions, due to his fear of the children of Lor and the fact that he did not want the battles of Lorestan to have a name in the management system, with the help of his English bosses and their theorists he converted the tribal and religious values in Lorestan to antivalues, and turned the fate of the province of Lorestan over to a thousand families outside the province on the insulting grounds that the children of Lorestan are unable to be responsible for their own affairs because of their tribal and ethnic makeup.

He added: With the triumph of the Islamic revolution led by His Holiness the Imam (peace be upon him), the palace of oppression and despotism collapsed, the disgraceful ring of idolatry was defeated and the talents of the children of Lor flourished. A group found its way into the nation's universities and graduated with high-specialist degrees in various sciences. By order of the great Imam, a group also went to the war fronts of truth against falsehood to defend the gains of the revolution and the Islamic homeland.

He said that one of the factors in the success of a manager is understanding the work setting and the surrounding environment. He said: There are some schools of thought in management that say we should leave the administrative center and go to the cities, districts, and villages where special disruptions and malfunctions are sensed in administrative affairs, and this itself has weaknesses and vulnerabilities. In the cities, this mostly takes the form of coordination between the government and nongovernment offices.

He continued: Sometimes, to obtain a small loan, a government client goes from municipality to Tehran and back four or five times on dangerous roads at heavy expense and is ultimately faced with a rejection. Sometimes it is seen that an official is improperly assigned to a task because of his relationship with a deputy minister or a manager, without study or consideration of the relation between job and worker. After a short time he does things that not only cause him to be reprimanded, but also bring others into question. This takes on a different dimension and appearance under the influence of opportunists, whose numbers are not small.

I recommend, to study and monitor the issues and to alleviate the existing problems and difficulties, that we make unannounced and unofficial appearances at official gatherings, even wearing disguises if possible, in order to pursue the guidelines and results of their seminars and meetings and to see how they are being implemented in the cities and villages and where the work problems are.

Farid discussed the parliamentary aides. He said: One of the duties of these dear ones is to convey the information and logical requests of the deputies, which arise from the problems of the people, to the ministers, deputy ministers and organizations under the ministries. Some of the dear ones, willingly or not, fall short in transferring information intended to solve problems.

Nosrat Samadzadeh, Deputy From Urmia

The third preagenda speaker was Samadzadeh, deputy from Urmia. During his speech he said: The experts have

regarded the goal of economic adjustment and eliminating subsidies as being to direct capital and currency in circulation into the producing sectors and arriving at true prices. It was their belief that after the implementation of the First Five-Year Plan current capabilities and quality would increase, and that consequently the prices of goods would drop.

He added: During the plan, with a study of the market we see that the prices of goods and services increased by the day and sometimes by the hour, disturbing the people.

The reasons are: (1) The lack of executive guarantees in the policies of the plan and the lack of financial regulations in the government, the government's failure to intervene in the market for goods needed by the people, and the failure to control prices. (2) The banking facilities given to the government and private sector companies to invest were not spent on the goal, the percentage of currency in circulation increased and consequently the government, instead of guiding capital into production and definite activity, created a thriving market for gold and currency speculators and drove the nation's interests out of the production sector into trade. (3) The economy was not properly evaluated, and due to the unstable policy making in the economy, part of the country's labor capability was wasted. The Five-Year Plan must specify the productivity of investment. Finally, the consumption model was not in accordance with incomes. (4) More than 80 percent of the foreign exchange revenues were obtained from oil exports, and because of the conditions in world markets, the anticipated prices were not implemented and likewise there was no specific procedure for collecting taxes under the Five-Year Plan. (5) The lack of public participation in setting priorities, especially in national projects. Since the Islamic government is founded on the commands of religion and the votes of the public, and His Holiness the Imam gave special importance to public participation and today the exalted leader also emphasizes this important matter, therefore the people are the main ones setting the policy for the nation's executive organizations. He added: Unfortunately, the National Planning and Economic Policy Council deals with statistics and numbers. (6) The First Five-Year Plan only had the goal of growth. No attention was given to investment procedures aimed at procuring social justice and alleviating deprivation. In studying the Second Five-Year Plan, in addition to goals, attention must be given to assessment of the First Five-Year Plan and to the objections to it. In short, policy making, planning, investing, and even managing must be such that all the nation's high ability will be used, so we will ultimately, in the near future, be able to follow the exalted leader's guidance and get away from a one-product economy dependent on oil, which is the only way of salvation in order to reach true independence for the nation of the Islamic Republic.

The deputy from Urmia asked the president of the republic to think about the measures necessary to deal with the rising waters of Lake Urmia.

He continued: Due to the lack of agriculture and industry, the province of West Azarbaijan is deprived of huge national credits.

The speaker added: The Technical College and Urmia University as the only support for technical manpower training in the region, must receive special attention in order to develop the West Azarbaijan region. The current problems, such as equipping laboratories and factories, must be solved.

In conclusion, the deputy from Urmia congratulated sports officials on the province of West Azarbaijan volley ball team's victory.

Yunes Mohammadi, Deputy From Khorramshahr

During the last 14 years the Majles has passed good laws, but it has acted weakly in the area of oversight.

The final preagenda speaker at yesterday's open Majles session was Mohammadi, deputy from Khorramshahr. During his speech, in connection with 3 Khordad [24 May] he discussed the anniversary of the liberation of Khorramshahr. He said: Khorramshahr is not just a city, it is a model and a symbol. It is a model of the power, greatness, and grandeur of the proud Muslim nation of Iran. With the liberation of Khorramshahr the enemies of Iran were politically and militarily demoralized. Today also, in commemorating this great day, we are teaching the lessons of moral heroism and courage to our children and we are reminding our enemies of the noble nation of Iran's steadfastness, sacrifice and courage. He discussed 7 Khordad [28 May], the anniversary of the establishment of the Majles, the manifestation of the justice of 'Ali (peace be upon him). He said: The Majles must act in such a way that it will realize the desires and hopes of the late Imam, for the Imam said: "the Majles is at the head of affairs."

He continued: The Majles is also a bird with two wings, making laws and oversight. During the last 14 years the Majles has passed good laws, but it has acted weakly in the area of oversight. The Majles is the home of the nation and it must show this nation's determination, steadfastness, and greatness. Governments must always follow the Majles, and the Majles must not allow individuals, willingly or unwillingly, to abstain from acting on the law.

The speaker then discussed 14 Khordad [4 June], the anniversary of the death of the great Imam. He said: We must all keep the Imam's memory alive in our hearts forever. We must protect with our good work this sacred government, which is his trust, like a valuable trust. Recently the president of the republic said that the policies of the enemies of the Islamic Republic of Iran are to make the people of Iran lose hope and to despair, and to keep them from continuing on their path.

The deputy from Khorramshahr then discussed the that fact that pessimism and despair grow like a dangerous bacteria in a place where it is possible for them to

develop. He said: We must destroy the circumstances and factors that cause pessimism to grow. In my view the following factors create the possibility for the growth of pessimism and despair:

(1) The nation's failure to recognize the government's services;

(2) the nation's lack of awareness of the great problems that surround our government; and

(3) the nation's failure to understand the nation's revenue situation.

He continued: Perhaps the people think the government has so much financial capability that it can meet all their expectations, but it is not this way. We have great problems with regard to revenues and the people must become aware of them.

(4) The failure to recognize the domestic and foreign enemies who act in various domestic and foreign dimensions, in various ways and in various political, military, moral and economic dimensions, and sometimes disguised as friends.

(5) The government's failure to deal decisively with the enemies of the system.

In this regard, he added: Those who are damaging the system in order to accumulate wealth and think only of their own interests especially have created this market situation, and moment by moment the prices of goods and services are going up without any reason. This is causing severe suffering among the people and has created circumstances to make the people pessimistic.

Continuing, the speaker added: The people are saying that a government that has stood up to America, the hypocrites, Saddam, and tens of domestic and foreign enemies can also defeat these economic enemies. The people want decisive government supervision in the market. At the end of his speech the deputy from Khorramshahr called for the alleviation of the economic problems in his electoral district. He said: Bandar-e Khorramshahr must be a protected port or it must be declared a free trade zone so this city can prosper.

Legislation

Majles Amends Law on Abortion Enacted by the Interests Discernment Council

Amendment Approved for Motion To Establish Files for Registered Appeals Without a Record

Motion To Establish Files for Registered Appeals Without a Record

The first item on the agenda at yesterday's open Majles session was the report from the Judicial and Legislative Affairs Commission concerning the Motion To Establish Files for Registered Appeals Without a Record or Whose Protests Have Been Lost by the Judicial Authorities (returned from the Guardian Council), and the above amendment was approved.

Article 1 as amended: As of the date of this law's enactment, with regard to appeals concerning the principle or boundaries of property, which are sent to the relevant judicial authorities under Articles 16 and 20 of the Registry Law by the end of the year 1360 [20 March 1982] or which for any reason do not have an appeals record with the judicial authorities, the appellants or their legal representatives may, within no more than six months after the date this law goes into force, submit their appeals along with the necessary documents to the competent court. They must obtain the necessary affidavit to this effect and submit it to the registry office at the place where the property is located. If they do not file during this period and if there is no excuse justified under religious law, the appeal will be considered rejected.

Iran-Russia-Finland International Shipping Agreement

The second item on the agenda was the report from the Housing and Urban Construction Commission concerning the Bill on the International Highway Shipping Agreement between the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Government of the Federation of Russia (returned from the Guardian Council), for which the commission's amendment was approved by the deputies.

Amendment to Article 13, Paragraph 3, on the last line: will either be taken out of service under the supervision of the appropriate customs officials (the meaning of "taken out of service" is "turned away"), or will be given at no charge to the customs officials of the aforementioned side.

The third item on the agenda was the report from the Housing and Urban Construction Commission concerning the Bill on the International Highway Shipping Agreement between the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Government of the Republic of Finland (returned from the Guardian Council), which was approved by the deputies.

Bill on the Uniform Retirement Pensions System

The next item on the agenda was the report from the first consultation of the Administrative and Employment Affairs Commission concerning the Bill on the Uniform Retirement and Obligatory Service Pensions System, the general form of which was approved by a decisive majority of the deputies.

Rashidi, the commission's expert, said concerning this: The basic issue was that the retirement wages were not appropriate for the periods before and after service, and government employees were truly disturbed by the arrival of the time for retirement and even fled from it. The time they were to retire was the time their children were entering the universities, the time their children were getting married and other things, and therefore the drop in their wages disrupted their lives.

He then added: The ceiling on retirement pensions is about 18,150 tumans, and those with academic credentials have specific ceilings. Henceforth, however, retirees will receive pensions in view of their years of service and their academic credentials.

Rashidi emphasized: Likewise, those who are already retired will have their payment ceilings raised under this law.

Law Amending Abortion Rules

The fifth item on the agenda was the report from the first consultation of the Judicial and Legislative Affairs Commission concerning the Motion To Amend Note 6 of the Abortion Rules Amendment Law enacted 8/28/1371 [19 November 1992] by the Interests Discernment Council, the general form of which was approved.

The amendment to Note 6 states: "During a divorce requested by the wife demanding compensation for work that was not her responsibility under religious law, the court will first seek to meet the wife's demands through reconciliation, and if reconciliation fails, if conditions are set on financial matters in the marriage contract or the contract for dissolution, the court will act in accordance with that. Otherwise, whenever the divorce is requested by the wife and also if the request for the divorce does not arise from the wife's violation of her duties as a spouse or her bad morality and behavior, the court will act as follows:

A) If the wife has done tasks that were not her responsibility under religious law at the husband's order or without the intention of the work being voluntary, and if this is proven to the court, the court will calculate the equivalent value and order its payment before issuing the divorce decree.

B) In cases other than the one in Paragraph A, in view of the number of years of communal life and the types of jobs the wife has done in the husband's home and the husband's financial situation, the court will designate for the wife a sum as a forgiveness (evacuation) amount for the wife. It is worth mentioning that Paragraph A was added in the measure enacted by the Interests Discernment Council, and in the Majles motion the vote was taken after that paragraph was amended and Paragraph B was added.

It is worth mentioning that Mr. Mohammad 'Ali Movahedi-Kermani said in a constitutional memorandum: If the Majles wants to enact a motion or a bill, it must be within the limits of religious law and the Constitution. Enactments by the Interests Discernment Council is above this. This means that the Interests Discernment Council may approve a measure based on interests and it may even be outside the bounds of religious law and the Constitution. Can the Majles change a measure enacted by the Interests Discernment Council? This issue was studied in the Interests Discernment Council, and the gentlemen in the Guardian Council specified precisely that the Majles may not make this change.

Mr. Nateq-Nuri said in answer: This issue you are raising was discussed in the Interests Discernment Council, and no measure was adopted with regard to it. We also believe that the gentlemen in the Guardian Council must ultimately issue an opinion.

Then Mr. Shibani gave a speech. He said: Our poor performance has disappointed the people in the us and the revolution. Then the speaker of the Majles, Mr. Nateq-Nuri, said: Of course, whenever Mr. Shibani speaks, he is clearly either concerned, passionate or sincere, but sometimes his language is harsh, and that is also sincere. He should modify his comment that the people are all disappointed now. He himself does not even believe that the people have become disappointed in this way, he is just saying that they should be more careful.

Measures by Majles Commissions

Amendment to Bill on Independence of Judicial Attorney's Society

Paragraph "J" of the aforementioned article is amended as follows: In addition to being members for one term in the Judicial and Legislative Affairs Commission, Majles deputies must have a judicial bachelor's degree or at least four years experience teaching specialist classes in the law colleges or a certificate of completion of high-level studies from the Qom Seminary or five years judicial trial experience. Continuing below is Note 2, under which the society is required within six months to make a decision about requesting a certificate of on-the-job training or parliamentary membership.

Bill on Organizations, Duties, and Elections in the National Islamic Councils and Mayoral Elections

Article 5 of this bill states: A council will be formed in each village with a majority of its members chosen from among the chosen representatives of the councils of the rural areas within the village limits, and if a member presented by the rural council for full membership is elected for membership in the village council, he will not cease to be a member of the rural council. This bill was approved in the National Councils and Domestic Affairs Commission with five sections and 103 articles.

Bill To Add Iran to the Agreement Between Member Nations of the Islamic Conference Organization To Support Guaranteed Investments

Based on Article 2, Section 2 of this bill, the parties to the agreement will authorize in accordance with their own laws the transfer of capital and its use among the countries and within their own domains in authorized areas of activity. The investments made must have sufficient support and security and the host country must provide the necessary facilities and incentives for the investors actively working in its territory.

The aforementioned bill was approved in the Joint Economic and Financial Affairs and Cooperatives Commission.

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